

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 00827 082239Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IO-13 EB-08 INR-07 /043 W
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R 081414Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4987
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

DEPARTMENT FOR IO, EB, OES, AF

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: TECH SL
SUBJ: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: U.S. PROMISES AND PROGRAMS

REF: (A) 76 STATE 113800, (B) 76 FREETOWN 3764, (C) FREETOWN
4129, (D) STATE 6360, (E) STATE 23509

1. FOLLOWING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S MAY SPEECH AT UNCTAD IV,
AID INITIATED A DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM FOR SOME THIRTY DEVELOP-
ING COUNTRIES TO SHOW HOW ADVANCED SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY
COULD BE APPLIED TO PROBLEMS OF ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
(REFTEL A). THE DEMONSTRATION EVOKED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST
IN SIERRA LEONE AND STIMULATED ONE REQUEST FROM THE MINSTRY
OF DEVELOPMENT FOR A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SPECIALISTS IN
USING THIS TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ANOTHER FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE FOR ADVANCED TECHNICAL TRAINING
IN SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY (REFTELS B AND C).

2. REFTEL D ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIDSAT FOLLOW-
ON PROGRAM AND SINCE THEN POST HAS RECEIVED SOME REPRINTS ON
SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY SUITABLE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

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PAGE 02 FREETO 00827 082239Z

REQUESTS FOR APPLIED DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL TRAINING HAVE
BEEN ANSWERED WITH VAGUE AND UNFULFILLED PROMISES OF POSSIBLE
FUTURE SEMINARS (REFTEL E).

3. EMBASSY IS CONCERNED THAT FAULURE TO ANTICIPATE ADEQUATELY
REQUESTS FOR FOLLOW-ON PROGRAMS ON ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DE-
MONSTRATIONS AND TO SATISFY PROMPTLY THESE REQUESTS COULD

DAMAGE USG CREDIBILITY WITH DEVELOPING NATIONS. THIS IN TURN
COULD UNDERMINE 1) COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
AND THE USG IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FORA,
2) USG ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE US COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES, AND 3)
THE OVERALL ATTAINMENT OF USG OBJECTIVES.

4. APPROPRIATE OFFICES ARE REQUESTED TO ASSURE THAT AID MOVES
PROMPTLY TO SATISFY, AT LEAST IN PART, THE EXPECTATIONS AROUSED
BY THE AIDSAT DEMONSTRATION AND THAT FUTURE ADVANCED TECH-
NOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS ARE PLANNED FROM THE OUTSET TO ASSURE
ADEQUATE FOLLOW-ON PROGRAMS AND TRAINING.

SAMUELS

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Message Attributes

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